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WHERE ROCKS WAIT

BY HENRY BELLAMANN

I go gallantly enough
Through great empty hours,
Through the heroic loneliness
Of afternoons along the mountain sides:
The dreaming peaks are kin,
And the clouds,
And the grape-blue shadows
Musing through green tree-waves
Like floating islands.

I can watch the marching fires of the days
Sink in blue smoke-smother
Or rise again in far ranging red—
Trampling the stars.

But in the little unexpected minutes
Of familiar needs,
When I turn toward you with unthinking talk,
Or questions—

Then is there instant wildness
In my heart,
As when an even current
Leaps suddenly upon black rocks
And cries,
And breaks its mirrored heaven
In a shrieking pit.